



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

APRIL 1985

EXECUTIVE WEAR: THE NEW SUIT ALTERNATIVES

The era of the mousey grey "success suit" is finally passing. Fall collections are brimming with fashionable executive choices. Designs include pants, new shapes, pattern mixes, and best of all....color!

SILHOUETTE

REVIEWED:

EXECUTIVE WEAR

DONNA MODA:
SWEATERS FALL '85

FALL SCARVES

MENSWEAR:
FALL '85

LONDON:
MAGICAL MYSTERY

AMADEUS LOOK

FASHION FOCUS

JACKETS: Three diverse jacket shapes dominate: the oversized, unstructured, notch-lapel "blazer"; the form-fitting suit jacket with neck interest, cropped short or slightly peplumed, and the collarless cardigan jacket. LORRAINE ROSENFELD designs an exceptionally clean cut, oversized notch-collar version in salt and pepper linen for GREGGESPORT. PATRICIA MURRAY exemplifies the fitted jacket in taupe, wine and black British menswear wool. It features a curved front closure, buttoned from shoulder to waist with black novelty buttons and a V-hemmed back; with coordinating skirt and black silk charmeuse blouse. A malachite hip-length, V-neck cardigan at MATTHEW LOMBARDI FOR CHINOISE.

SKIRTS: Narrow and cut near the knee, or long and sweeping. ANNE KLEIN II shows a shorter, narrow skirt in ivory and black wool herringbone. Knife pleats on longer skirts. Multi-pleated, side-buttoned 33-inch skirt by MATTHEW LOMBARDI FOR CHINOISE.

VESTS: With dramatic blouses and challis dirndles. ELLEN TRACY designs a red, notch-collared, cable stitch vest, with a pin-tucked, cream silk broadcloth blouse and a 34-inch full skirt --turquoise, red, gold, purple, green Indian paisley in wool/challis/silk.

BLOUSES: Flanged shoulders, tunnel necks and overlapping collars. An exceptional cream Irish linen blouse at STANLEY BLACKER DESIGNER COLLECTION with buttoned tunnel neck and wide, triple shoulder flange.

PANTS: Modified paper-bag topped pants, cuffed Hepburn styles. A green flannel wool classic pant suit at HARVE BENARD.

COLORS

GREEN AND VIOLET: A deep purple wool knit outfit with a green drape-front turtle neck from NORBURY and OSUNA. Violet and green plaids at STANLEY BLACKER. Red, with gold, turquoise and brown. Pink or curry with black.

FABRICS

Wool flannel, boiled wool for jackets. Cashmere, wool jersey and wool crepe. Linen and menswear cotton.

DONNA MODA--SOPHISTICATED SWEATERS FROM ITALY FOR FALL '85

SILHOUETTE: Dramatic. Shoulders are wide and often padded. Extra-long pullovers skim the hips. A boat-necked, black angora pullover from ANNA DURNA is striped with hot pink elephants and cropped above the midriff. Elongated midriff ribbing adds flair to the draped looks. Cardigans are short in front, long in back. MARIELLA AMI's fuzzy, white cotton/wool knit-lace cardigan is cropped at the chest in front, edged in white corduroy, elongated in back with shirt-tail hem. Sweaters are worn with straight knit skirts and coordinating knit stirrup pants.

COLORS: Muted rose is the color of the season. FILITALIA'S long-sleeved sweater in rose angora/silk has wide drape neck extending from front to a bow at the nape of the back. White on white, royal blue, day-glow brights, especially fuchsia with black, green with purple; and mixed, tawny neutrals. An abbreviated stripe jacquard pullover from PACABU has wide shoulders, dolman sleeves, and a boat neck-- in browns, cream and taupe with detachable scarf collar and black ribbing.

DETAILS: Opulent, decorous details finish the look. Glittering beads, florettes, pearls and a flourish of drapes. Vertical lines of pearls and sequin florettes embroidered on the front of MILENA MOSELE's white, angora Shetland, hip-length pullover with cables, padded shoulders and hip pockets.

WOOLS AND PATTERNS: Angora and mohair blends predominate for soft, highly textured effects. Brightly-colored lurex adds sparkle to day and evening looks. A mohair blend cardigan by DONNA TEG for TIRELLI is bright green with orange, green and purple lurex clouds and plastic teal glitter buttons. Art-inspired jacquards are strong, as are animal motifs and puffed harlequin patterns. Highlights: MARINA SPADAFORA's pink, geometric-printed angoras and MALI FIRENZE's black cotton chain mail.

FALL SCARVES

The scarf is the accessory of the season. Three sure-sell themes dominate the market: paisleys, cabbage roses, and plaid mufflers. Also, look for equestrian silk scarves. Luxury is key...silk, wool/silk blends, lurex, cashmere looks. Elegant, vivid brights and jewel tones: blues, aubergine, maroon, magenta, brilliant red, purple, winter white, green.

PAISLEYS

In every size, style, color. Outstanding: intricate Persian patterns. YVES ST. LAURENT shows a shimmering, burgundy-based, 44-inch square of lino weave silk (style 6250). The aristocratic fringed muffler. A plum-based, paisley, silk/chinon twill cravat reverses to solid plum wool at ECHO SCARVES (16-144). A silk jacquard damask muffler in teal and burnt sienna from SALDARINI (G820). Traditional wool challis squares. Challis by SPECIALTY HOUSE in black, burnt orange and blue paisley print bordered in royal blue (4666). Pocket squares. A color-blocked pocket stuffer by OSCAR DE LA RENTA in yellow with navy, red and white block-print paisleys (511-25).

CABBAGE ROSES

Large, brush-stroke florals in rich jewel shades or vibrant brights. Extra-large, silk/wool square with magenta, taupe and white flowers from SALDARINI (3285) evokes rural charm. CHRISTIAN DIOR SCARVES shows an oversized silk charmeuse oblong with large, purple/red/gold brush-stroke roses (8031-7777). For a younger market, check out the hot bright roses. Wool challis alpine floral squares at ECHO SCARVES (16-310).

PLAID MUFFLERS

Tartans and buffalo plaids are strong for Fall. Pastel Edwardians for Holiday. Emphasis is on textured weaves and vivid, tonal color combinations. GEOFFREY BEENE designs a fuzzy, bright plaid scarf in forest green, black, purple and red (3064-0985). A homespun wool muffler from Scotland in white with plums, pinks, maroon and blue in an open basket weave by ECHO SCARVES (17-140).

MENSWEAR

Fall '85 is the year of the Gentleman. Quality is paramount. Gary Cooper elegance -- earth and jewel colors, new multi-textures and patterns. Bright accents. Western and Australian roughwear. Italian-influenced unusually colored sportswear with wide shoulders. Leather jackets & vests.

COLORS: Finally, color for men. Subdued jewel tones: fuchsia, teal, turquoise, vivid green with brown, plum. A heavy wool, collared sweater in chateau brown with intermittent violet stars --MERONA SPORT. Earthtones: khaki with yellow, white with charcoal, toast with garnet. Bright red accents. A charcoal grey "varsity" sweater by CESARANI with cables and red bands at the cuff, V-neck and midriff.

PRINTS: The biggest news of the season--- paisleys and mosaics. A fuchsia crew neck from CARBONELL features a small, black paisley print. BASCO's long sleeve, knit polo has a ribbed waist and eggplant/teal/mustard mosaic stripes. Corkscrew and patchwork stripes. A corkscrew patterned, V-neck cardigan in black and olive wool --MARY JANE MARCASIANO. JHANE BARNES' alpaca/cotton sweater, with black trim at neck and ribbed waist with teal, pink, grey and black patchwork "bolts."

HIGHLIGHTS: Look for the cardigan jacket; with a bigger lapel, single button front, wide shape and ventless back, worn over a sweater. A jewel tone blanket plaid at JEFFREY BANKS. Or in grey with turquoise tattersal at MARY JANE MARCASIANO, blouson-bottomed polo shirts, big shirts, jacquard sweaters and the 3/4 coat. The AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK COLLECTION's "bluey", car-length coat of fire resistant, water & moth proof wool, has arc shoulders and big saddle pockets.

FABRICS: Focus on texture. Flat, drapable rayons for shirts. Multi-colored heather yarns at JEFFREY BANKS. Alpacas and heavy cashmeres, Donegal flannel pants. Twisted wool weaves. Basket weave wool. Cabled and multi-textured cotton sweaters. Top-stitched, tattersall textured accents by GIANFRANCO RUFFINI. Mixed leathers. ROBERT COMSTOCK'S bomber jacket in rugged lamb and tough buck. Pig skin vest from the AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK COLLECTION with a square-edged flap in back.

MAGICAL MYSTERY FROM LONDON

Britain's latest news: the mystical gypsy theme. Stars, moons, crystal balls, tarot cards and sorcerers are turning up as prints for legwear, knitwear, big-shirts. Sorceress sweaters and dresses shot with lurex, styled with puffed shoulders, low-cut necklines and Elizabethan angled cuffs. Also, big, black Merlin capes. Clothes are accessorized with large pocket watches, kaleidoscopes and heavy silver jewelry.

AMADEUS

For his Spring collection, Danny Noble launched the now popular "Amadeus look". His models charmed audiences in spikey, tousled Mozart wigs; untucked, tuxedo shirts in black and white paisley; striped morning pants, cut wide at the thigh, narrow at the calf; and lightweight, paisley print jackets.

For Fall, this trend is becoming more popular for men and women. In Britain, it coordinates with "Young Fogey" styles. Brocade and tapestry jackets "swallow tail" shirts and coattails, mid-calf pants, linen and lace pocket stuffers.

The American Junior market incorporates Amadeus themes with Prince-wear (rock star). Ruffled blouses, wide, cuff-linked cuffs, knee britches, pattern mixing. American and French designers use Amadeus details in their upcoming Edwardian collections. Waist-nipping, wide lapel jackets with cloth covered buttons. Broaches on ruffled necklines. Subtler, luxurious brocade pattern mixing. Refined dandies.

GABRIELE KNECHT

After designing for such firms as Bill Atkinson and Villager, Gabriele Knecht launched her unique "forward sleeve" collection. By studying motion and fashion she developed asymmetric designs to angle sleeves forward the way arms move. Last year her achievements were rewarded with the More Fashion Award, given to promising new designers.

Her pieces are unusual. Wide-shouldered designs taper toward the hem, trimmed with delicate, asymmetrical details. For Fall-- mohair, wool jersey, wool crepe and satin-faced silk organza enhance her designs in gunmetal, rose, black, ivory, silver grey, burnished gold. She repeats these shades in open weave, diamond print hosiery for LEG LOOKS by BURLINGTON.

Outstanding: A top with two unevenly scalloped flanges widen from the waist to the shoulder and open into sleeves-- in ivory wool jersey. A rose jersey dress features drawstring tie from mid-shoulder to mid-shoulder, leaving keyhole openings at the top of each shoulder. This collection looks well in all sizes as it is designed for movement, rather than shape. (Wholesale-- Separates: \$80-100; tops: \$130-170; dresses: \$200.00) (264 West 35th St., 714-2424)

LAUREN HANSON

At last-- oversized sweaters with a clean, wearable look. Simple, sophisticated sport motifs and textured, vividly colored yarns make Lauren Hanson's novelty sweaters unique.

An outstanding V-neck cardigan, cropped and boxy in vivid blue wool/rayon shot with red, pink, purple, orange, gold and brown; bordered in "box jacquard" of blue rayon and purple angora. Cotton square-necked pullover with white chest/shoulder panel, emblazoned with large currant, green, teal and turquoise squares. Motifs: V-neck vest with pastel sailing scene (#2340). Taupe/white stripes on nubby, deep V-neck sweater with blue and gold cats (#1991). (Wholesale: \$21-60) (1441 Broadway, 398-1270)



Left: Gabriele Knecht's Dress--drawstring tie from mid-shoulder to mid-shoulder



Right: Lauren Hanson's cotton square-necked pullover

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PUBLISHER: Ruth Finley, FASHION CALENDAR

CO-EDITORS: Jill Golden & Devorah Tedeschi, New York

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: Alice Meyer, Florence & N.Y.

Eleonora Mutarelli, Milan

Lee Slaughter, Paris & N.Y.

Kathleen Mears, New York

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